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Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 095300

71
ORIGIN ARA-20

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 IO-14 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10

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DRAFTED BY ARA/BC/C:AISAACS
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ARA/BC:JBINNS
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ARA/BC:JEKARKASHIAN
---------- 082581
P 082144Z MAY 74
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY SANTIAGO PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY LIMA PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY LA PAZ PRIORITY

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E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: CI, PE
SUBJECT:CHILE-PERU

1.DURING TESTIMONY (PRIMARILY ON HUMAN RIGHTS IN CHILE) BEFORE FRASER-FASCELL SUBCOMMITTEES MAY 7, FORMER CONGRESSMAN CHARLES O. PORTER MAY HAVE GIVEN IMPRESSION THAT DEPARTMENT HAD EXPRESSED CONCERN TO HIM ABOUT PERU-CHILE RELATIONS AP AND UPI LATIN AMERICAN WIRES HAVE CARRIED DISPATCHES TO THIS EFFECT. FOLLOWING IS CONTINGENCY GUIDANCE PREPARED FOR DEPARTMENT SPOKESMAN.

2. QUESTION: IS IT TRUE THAT THE DEPARTMENT EXPRESSED ITS CONCERN TO FORMER CONGRESSMAN PORTER ABOUT IMMINENT HOSTILITIES BETWEEN CHILE AND PERU? ANSWER: NO. IN A
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PAGE 02 STATE 095300

PRIVATE CONVERSATION, MR. PORTER QUESTIONED AN OFFICER OF

Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005

Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005

THE DEPARTMENT AND WAS TOLD THAT AS FAR AS WE COULD DETERMINE SUCH REPORTS AS PORTER MAY HAVE HEARD ALONG THIS LINE WERE QUITE SPECULATIVE AND DID NOT WARRANT CREDENCE.

3. Q: MR. PORTER MENTIONED SOVIET TANKS FOR PERU. IS THIS A NEW DEVELOPMENT AND DID THE DEPARTMENT RAISE THIS SUB-JECT WITH HIM? A: THIS SUBJECT LIKE THE OTHER ISSUES TO WHICH MR. PORTER REPORTEDLY REFERRED WAS RAISED BY HIM. I THINK YOU WILL RECALL THERE WERE SOME PUBLIC REFERENCES SEVERAL MONTHS AGO TO PERU'S PURCHASE OF SOVIET TANKS. IN

FACT, PERU PRESIDENT VELASCO, IN A PRESS CONFERENCE LAST DECEMBER, ACKNOWLEDGED THAT PERU HAD PURCHASED SOVIET TANKS BUT HE FURNISHED NO FURTHER DETAILS.

4. Q: WE UNDERSTAND MR. PORTER OFFERED A LIST OF RECOMMENDATIONS TO THE SUB-COMMITTEE, INCLUDING ONE SUGGESTING THAT THE SO-CALLED WAR THREAT BETWEEN CHILE AND PERU BE NIPPED IN THE BUD BY ACTION TO BE TAKEN BY SECRETARY KISSINGER AND A SPECIAL OAS COMMISSION. DOES THE DEPARTMENT SUPPORT THIS RECOMMENDATION? A: THIS IS A HYPOTHETICAL QUESTION ON WHICH WE HAVE NO COMMENT. RUSH

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